

Supply Unchained

"Although human trafficking is found in many trades, the risk is more pronounced in industries that rely upon low-skilled or unskilled labor. This includes jobs that are dirty, dangerous, and difficult—those that are typically low-paying and undervalued by society and are often filled by socially marginalized groups including migrants, people with disabilities, or minorities."- U.S. Department of State, 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report



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Supply Unchained is enabling GoodWeave to more precisely pinpoint production sites at greater risk of labor violations enabling strategic deployment of resources for the benefit of otherwise unregulated workers.



Working at the nexus of business and human rights, the goal of *Supply Unchained* is to leverage partnerships, technology, and rigorous third-party monitoring to create a new model for identifying and preventing human trafficking cases in the lowest tiers of global supply chains.

The Problem

The International Labor Organization estimates that 21 million people are trapped in slavery annually, many of whom are forced to produce consumer goods destined for international markets. Human trafficking and other human rights violations are concentrated in subcontracted and unregulated tiers of the supply chain where corporations generally do not have visibility today. With high-profile cases in the headlines and new laws on the books in the U.S. and Europe, companies are facing increasing pressure to mitigate reputational risk by gaining visibility beyond the top tier of the supply chain to understand the myriad subcontractors and informal workers producing their goods.

Meanwhile, anti-slavery efforts are perpetually in search of actionable data to help target prevention efforts, rescue operations, service provision, and policy solutions. Civil society, law enforcement, and corporations often work in silos, unable to leverage lessons learned across interests.

The Innovation

GoodWeave International's unique ability to access the lowest tiers of supply chains while maintaining collaborative corporate partnerships creates new space for understanding how businesses, service providers, and informal workers can work together to achieve supply chain traceability and address labor rights challenges.

Supply Unchained is creating an online dashboard, coupled with strategic mobile data collection tools, to transform GoodWeave's proven carpet sector monitoring and certification methodology into a scalable, transferrable model for mapping, analyzing, and sharing detailed data more rapidly and effectively. Previously elusive, unregulated tiers of global supply chains will, through this initiative, become more transparent and pave the way for expanding the reach from carpets to apparel and beyond.

Key Strategies

Target Corporation—a GoodWeave partner company—is allowing its supply chain for carpets in India to serve as a proving ground for *Supply Unchained*, offering GoodWeave an opportunity to test a set of mutually-reinforcing strategies:

- ***Conduct random, unannounced inspections using customized mobile application:*** GoodWeave is working with the software developer [ChainPoint](#) to design a secure application to run monitoring forms, speed up the supply chain inspection process, and sync with a customized inspection database.
- ***Provide real-time, appropriate data to companies, and eventually, service providers:*** The ChainPoint platform will extract information from the inspection database, scrub confidential data and personal information, and display relevant data via a series of customized dashboards designed for use by GoodWeave and its partner companies.
- ***Identify and address root causes of supply chain human rights issues:*** Informed by new supply chain visibility, GoodWeave will facilitate dialogue with suppliers in real time about how to direct the flow of orders to high-performing subcontracting units while working with lower-performing units to make systemic improvements, eventually making it easier for brands to work with unregulated workers.
- ***Asses overall trends in violations and worker demographic information to target resource investment:*** GoodWeave's own set of dashboards will offer aggregated information on supply chain relationships and locations, violations, and workforce to more precisely pinpoint production sites at greater risk for bonded labor and trafficking, allowing staff resources to be deployed more strategically in high-risk areas.
- ***Conduct anonymous mobile worker surveys:*** Between formal audits, anonymous worker surveys made possible by [Good World Solutions' LaborLink](#) service will help to verify GoodWeave's monitoring data, target regions for more regular in-person surveillance, assess the strengths and weaknesses of inspection and monitoring procedures, and determine key areas where there is potential for reaching vulnerable workers with critical services.

Funding Partners

Supply Unchained is a pioneering initiative developed by the [USAID Global Development Lab's Development Innovation Accelerator](#), which aims to use Science, Technology, Innovation, and Partnership (STIP) to dramatically improve or save the lives of over 200 million people over the next five years.

[The Skoll Foundation](#), founded by Silicon Valley entrepreneur Jeff Skoll in 1999, invests in, connects and celebrates social entrepreneurs and the innovators who help them solve the world's most pressing problems.